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FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG  
745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL.  
NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER
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PHAM, KHANH B

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## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-12, 16-24, 30, 32-35, 56-69** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Williamson et al. (US 2006/0253449 A1), hereinafter "**Williamson**".

**As per claim 1**, Williamson teaches a system for providing legal information comprising:

- "at least one computer and a plurality of user terminals with communicate over a network" at Fig. 1;
- "at least one database associated with the at least one computer storing the legal information in association with a plurality of legal topics and a plurality of types of legal information" at Figs. 2-3
- "a computer readable medium or media storing programming that cause the at least one computer to access within the at least one database a plurality of items of legal information responsive to a request received from a user terminal" at [0033]-[0035];

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- “each of legal information being associated with one or more respective topic tag identifying a legal topic or subtopic associated with the associated item of legal information” at [0014]-[0015], [0041]-[0046];
- “and each type tag identifying a type of legal information corresponding to the associated item of legal information” at [0041]-[0047];
- “cause each item of legal information associated with the accessed information to be provided for display on a display device associated with the user terminal from which the request was received” at Figs. 4-6;
- “automatically tabulated by the respective type tags and configured to be selectable at the user terminal to provide a request for display on the display device of the content associated with the selected item” at [0051]-[0054] and Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 2**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1 , wherein "the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions and news" at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 3**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1 , wherein “causing each item of legal information to be display comprises causing each item of legal information to be provided for display in a separate display window by type” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 4**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 3, wherein “the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of : “administrative action, legislative

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action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 5**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 3, wherein “the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 6**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, wherein “legal topics comprising at least two of: admiralty and maritime; alternative dispute resolution; antitrust; trade regulation; banking; finance; bankruptcy; business; commercial; consumer rights; corporate; business organizations; civil rights; collectibles and personal property; communications; media; constitutional; construction; contracts; criminal; education; employment; labor; entertainment; gaming; sports; environmental; estates, trusts, and wills; family; government; elections and politics; government benefits; government contracts; government administration; state government; local government; health; human rights; immigration; insurance; intellectual property; copyrights; patents; trademarks; international; international trade; internet; litigation; litigation administration; appellate procedure; civil procedure; damages and remedies; evidence; mergers and acquisitions; military; natural resources; energy; native populations; professions and occupations; professional licensing; professional responsibility; products liability; real property; science and technology; securities; US

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federal taxation; state taxation; international taxation; torts; transportation; and workers' rights" at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 7**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, wherein "the programming causes the at least one computer to:

- "automatically access within the at least one database new legal information responsive to the request while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device" at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9;
- "provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the accessed new legal information together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type" at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9.

**As per claim 8**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, wherein "the programming causes the at least one computer to :

- "automatically and periodically access the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device" at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9;

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- “if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type” at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9.

**As per claim 9**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to :

- “automatically and continually access the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device” at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9;
- “if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information all tabulated by type” at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9.

**As per claim 10**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, comprising “a plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is stored in separate databases by legal topic” at [0042] and Fig. 3.

**As per claim 11**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, comprising “plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is stored in separate databases by type of legal information” at [0042] and Fig. 3.

**As per claim 12**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, comprising “a plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is provided by a plurality of sources, and the legal information is stored in separate databases according to the source that provided the information” at [0042] and Fig. 3.

**As per claim 16**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 1, wherein “the programming causes the at least one computer to display on the display device tabulated by type each item of legal information provided for display” at Figs. 4-6

**As per claim 17**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 16, wherein “each item of legal information displayed on the display device is associated with a selectable link to the associated content, and wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to generate a request to retrieve the associated content from the at least one database in response to selection of a selectable link at the user terminal” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 56**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 16, wherein “the programming stored on the computer readable medium or media causes the at least one computer to provide for display on the display device content associated with a



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displayed item of legal information in response to selection thereof at the user terminal” at [0037].

**As per claim 57**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 56, wherein “the programming stored on the computer readable medium or media cause the at least one computer to display on the display device the content provided for display” at [0037].

**As per claim 18**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 57, wherein “the displayed content comprises a complete version of a document” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 19**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 57, wherein “the displayed content comprises an abbreviated version of a document” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 20**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 19, wherein “the abbreviated version of a document comprises a summary of a document” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 21**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 19, wherein “the abbreviated version of a document comprises at least one redacted portion of a document” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 22**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 16, wherein “the displayed content information comprises at least a partial image of a document” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 23**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 57, wherein “displayed content and a displayed item of information with which the displayed content is associated are displayed in different display windows” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 24**, Williamson teaches the system of claim 57, wherein “displayed content and displayed item of information with which the displayed content is associated are displayed in different monitor screens” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claims 30, 69**, Williamson teaches a method of processing legal information comprising:

- “assigning to each of a plurality of documents which each comprises legal information relating to a plurality of legal topics at least one identifier associated with (a) at least one of the legal topics and (b) at least one of a plurality of types of legal information” at [0041]-[0046] and Figs. 2-3;
- “formatting the documents according to a protocol” at [0043];
- “storing the formatted documents in at least one database” at Figs. 2-3;
- “using identifiers associated with the stored documents to identify documents within the at least one database responsive to a request received from a user terminal for information related to at least one of the plurality of legal topics” at [0051]-[0054];

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- “causing legal information associated with the identified documents to be provided for displayed on the display device, automatically tabulated by type according to the identifiers associated with the respective identified documents” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 32**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 30, wherein “documents are stored in a plurality of databases” at Fig. 3.

**As per claim 33**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 32, wherein “the documents are stored in the plurality of databases according to at least one of: the topics in relation to which respective document are stored, the type assigned to the documents, and a source of the documents” at Fig. 3.

**As per claim 34**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 30, comprising: “checking formatted documents for compliance with a document receiving protocol; and generating a notice of defects automatically upon determination that a checked document does not comply with the protocol” at [0039].

**As per claim 35**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 34, comprising “automatically performing the assigning and formatting steps on the non-complying document” at [0039].

**As per claims 58, 68**, Williamson teaches a method for providing legal information comprising

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- “associated items of legal information and content in a system comprising at least one computer and a plurality of user terminals which communicate over a network” at Fig. 1;
- “and at least one database associated with the at least one computer storing a plurality of items of legal information” at Figs. 1-3;
- “each item of legal information being associated with one or more respective topic tag and one or more respective type tags, each topic tag identifying a legal topic or subtopic associated with the associated item of legal information, and each type tag identifying a type of legal information corresponding to the associated item of legal information” at [0041]-[0046] and Figs. 2-3;
- “the at least one computer accessing within the at least one database legal information responsive to a request from a user terminal” at Figs. 1-6;
- “the at least one computer providing for display on a display device associated with the user terminal from which the request was received each item of legal information associated with the accessed information” at [0051]-[0054] and Figs. 3-6
- “automatically tabulated by the respective type tag and configured to be selectable at the user terminal to provide a request for display on the display device of the content associated with the selected item” at Figs. 3-6.

**As per claim 59**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 58, comprising “the at least one computer displaying on the display device tabulate by type each item of legal information provided for display” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 60**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 59, comprising “the at least one computer providing for display on the display device content associated with a displayed item of legal information in response to selection thereof at the user terminal” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 61**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 60, comprising “the at least one computer displaying on the displayed device the content provided for display” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 62**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 59, wherein “displaying each item of legal information comprises displaying each item of legal information in a separate display window by type” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 63**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 61, wherein “displaying the content comprises displaying the content in a different display window than each associated displayed item” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 64**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 61, wherein “displaying the content comprises displaying the content in a different monitor screen than each associated displayed item” at Figs. 4-6.

**As per claim 65**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 59, wherein "each item of legal information displayed on the display device is associated with a selectable link to associated content, the method comprising generating a request to retrieve the associated content by selection of a selectable link at the user terminal" at [0046].

**As per claim 66**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 58, comprising "the at least one computer: automatically accessing within the at least one database new legal information responsive to the request while providing for display each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information; and providing for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the accessed new legal information together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type" at [0070] and Fig. 9.

**As per claim 67**, Williamson teaches the method of claim 60, comprising the at least one computer: automatically and periodically accessing the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device; and if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, providing for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information together with each item of legal information

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associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type" at [0036], [0070] and Fig. 9.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 1/6/2011 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The examiner respectfully traverses Applicant's arguments.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant argued that a "type of legal information" within the meaning of claim 1 is not merely any classification of information. Indeed, the specification makes clear that a "class" of information is much broader than a "type". On the contrary, further reviewing of the specification clearly proves the opposite. For example, the paragraph [0008] states: "types can also include other class of information, as for example sources of information and dates associated with the information". Therefore any class of information indicates the type of information. Williamson teaches at [0041]-[0047] several different type of information stored in different tables such as "tables of outlines, clauses and terms".

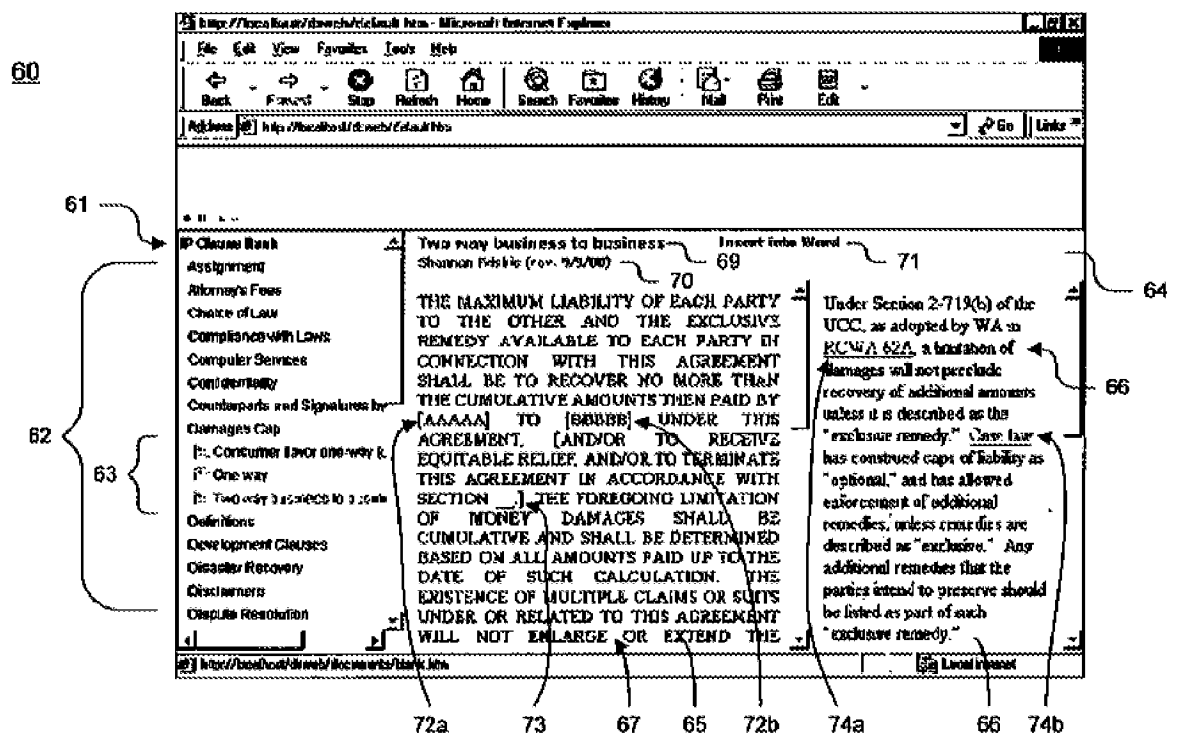
Applicant further argued that "Williamson fails to teach or suggest type tags that identify a type of legal information associated with an item of legal information". On the contrary, the specification at [0041] provides: "**tags can be associated with documents** physically, by applying stamped ink, typing, handwriting, or stapling of papers, and/or electronically, as for example by attachment or association of identifying tags or characters, or **by storage in specified memory locations**". Similarly, William

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stores each type of information at a different specified memory location (i.e. different table) and therefore anticipates the claimed "type tag".

Applicant further argued that William fails to teaches "causing the item of legal information to be displayed, automatically tabulated according to their type tags".

Applicant's specification at [0009] provides: "Information is provided in tabulated form when it is sorted, placed in a tables, or presented logically. Williamson clearly teaches at Figs. 4-6 a table which displayed legal information, tabulated according the their type tags. For example, Fig. 4 show a clause selection module 60 displayed in a table, which allows user to select a clause to be displayed on the clause panel 65:

**Fig. 4.**

In view of the foregoing arguments, the 102 rejection is hereby sustained.



***Conclusion***

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-4116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Khanh B. Pham/  
Primary Examiner  
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January 20, 2011